

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00846 050120Z

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ACTION IO-11

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6153

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TAGS: EGEN, AORG, UN, EADI

SUBJECT: UN RESTRUCTURING COMMITTEE-UNCTAD STATEMENT

REF: USUN 798

1. FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF STATEMENT DELIVERED MARCH 1 BY UNCTAD SYG COREA BEFORE THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS OF THE UN SYSTEMS. FULL TEXT WILL BE POUCHED TO THE DEPARTMENT (IO/CMD - BRUCE) WHEN AVAILABLE.

2. COREA SAID HE COULD NOT BE PRECISE REGARDING THE ROLE OF UNCTAD IN A RESTRUCTURED UN SYSTEM UNTIL AFTER UNCTAD IV. HE HOPES TO PRESENT TO THE AD HOC COMMITTEE IN JUNE THE RESULTS OF UNCTAD IV WHICH WILL BE AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORK OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE.

3. A G-77 WORKING GROUP WILL PRIOR TO THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD SESSION, PREPARE SPECIFICS TO ELABORATE THE GENERAL UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 00846 050120Z

PRINCIPLES OF THE MANILA RESOLUTION REGARDING UNCTAD'S

ROLE.

4. UNCTAD HAS HAD GREAT SIGNIFICANCE OVER THE PAST DECADE AS A SOURCE OF MAJOR GENERAL IDEAS REGARDING TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT. THE NEXT PHASE OF UNCTAD SHOULD GIVE GREATER IMPORTANCE TO ITS ROLE AS A NEGOTIATING INSTRUMENT FOR REACHING SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS OF A MORE LEGALLY BINDING CHARACTER.

5. DUE TO THE SPREADING ROLE OF THE G-77 IN OTHER UN AND EVEN NON-UN BODIES, UNCTAD IS NO LONGER NEEDED AS THE SAFETY VALVE TO ALLOW THE EXPRESSION OF G-77 VIEWS. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS NOW PLAYING THE FORMER UNCTAD ROLE OF OUTLINING GENERAL POLICY GUIDELINES AND UNCTAD CAN SERVE AS THE INSTRUMENT OF THE GA TO "CONCRETIZE " GA DECISIONS.

6 EXPERTS' REPORT CONTAINS MUCH OF VALUE BUT ALSO INCLUDES AMBIGUITIES REGARDING UNCTAD THAT NEED TO BE CLARIFIED. HOW COULD UNCTAD BE MERGED INTO THE CENTRAL STRUCTURE IF IT IS GOING TO BE MERGED INTO A NEW INTERNATIONAL TRADE ORGANIZATION (IOT)? HOW COULD THE STRENGTHENED CENTRAL STRUCTURE PROVE ITSELF IF IT IS EXCLUDED FROM AREAS UNDER CONSIDERATION IN UNCTAD DURING THE FIRST TWO YEARS?

7. THE UN SYSTEM MAKES TWO DIFFERENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEVELOPMENT: 1) PROVIDING GUIDANCE AND FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AT BASICALLY THE LEVEL OF NATIONAL DECISION MAKING; AND 2) FOSTERING AND SERVICING AN INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT AT THE LEVEL OF INTERNATIONAL DECISION-MAKING.

8. THE RESTRUCTURED UN SYSTEM SHOULD PROVIDE FOR A THREE-PRONGED APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT: 1) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL (PRESUMABLY BY UNDP); 2) SUBSTANTIVE GUIDANCE REGARDING NATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES (PRESUMABLY THE UN DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS); AND 3) THE NEGOTIATING FORM FOR THE INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT (PRESUMABLY UNCTAD).

9. UNCTAD'S ROLE IN PROVIDING THE INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK  
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PAGE 03 USUN N 00846 050120Z

FOR DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED BY SERVING AS THE VEHICLE FOR CONTINUING THE CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION.

10 ECOSOC SHOULD CONTINUE TO PLAY ITS ORIGINALLY INTENDED ROLE AS COORDINATOR OF ECONOMIC-SOCIAL ACTIVITIES WHILE UNCTAD SERVES AS THE NEGOTIATING INSTRUMENT.

11. ALTHOUGH STRUCTURAL CHANGES MIGHT BE DIFFICULT AS LONG AS THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS, AT THE SAME TIME THERE MUST BE CONSIDERATION OF CHANGING THE PRESENT "RULES OF THE GAME" AND MERGING UNCTAD AND GATT TO COVER THE GENERAL AREA OF TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT.

12. COREA'S PROPOSALS FOR STRENGTHENING UNCTAD WOULD NOT PREJUDICE THE ULTIMATE DECISION REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF N ITO, BUT THEY WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH AN ITO.  
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